

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-10 /028 W

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R 281040Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3702

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 2636

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EPAP BTIO TC

SUBJ: MARKET FOR MEAT IN UAE

REF: MUSCAT 1366

1. MAIN SOURCES OF MEAT IN UAE ARE ROMANIA, AUSTRALIA, SOMALIA,
AND INDIA. RETAIL PRICE OF MEAT IN ABU DHABI IS FIXED BY THE
GOVERNMENT AS FOLLOWS:

CHILLED ROMANIAN MEAT	12.50
CHILLED AUSTRALIAN MEAT	12.50

LOCALLY SLAUGHTERED AUSTRALIAN MEAT 13.50

CHILLED SOMALIAN MEAT	11.50
INDIAN MEAT	10.50

THE ABOVE PRICES ARE DIRHAMS/KILOGRAM (1 DOLLAR EQUALS 3.95
DIRHAMS). THESE PRICES APPLY IN THE MUNICIPAL MARKET AND ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. PRIVATE BUTCHERS SELL AT HIGHER
PRICES, GENERALLY BETWEEN 14 AND 15 DIRHAMS/KILOGRAM.

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2. THE MUNICIPALITY OF ABU DHABI OPERATES WALK-IN COLD STORES

WITH A CAPACITY OF 23 TONS. ALL-AIN MUNICIPALITY OPERATES
A SIMILAR BUT SMALLER FACILITY. ALSO A MAJOR COLD STORAGE FACILITY
OF 150-TON CAPACITY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN ABU DHABI. ITS
COMPLETION IS EXPECTED IN TWO MONTHS. DUBAI MUNICIPALITY
OPERATES NO COLD STORAGE FACILITIES, BUT PRIVATE MEAT
IMPORTERS IN DUBAI HAVE COLD STORAGE OF UNKNOWN TOTAL CAPACITY.

3. DAILY MEAT CONSUMPTION: ABU DHABI 4-5 TONS (METRIC);
AL-AIN 2-2 1/2 TONS; AND DUBAI AND NORTHERN EMIRATES
9-10 TONS.

4. COMMENT: ABU DHABI'S MEAT IMPORTERS ARE EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE
AND THE COMPETITION IS CUT-THROAT (NO PUN INTENDED). IT WOULD
BE COMPLETELY IN CHARACTER FOR THEM TO GREET NEWCOMERS WITH
COMPETITIVE PRICE REDUCTIONS.
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